

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

1. (Currently amended) A ~~device-to-device authentication~~ system for authenticating a device on a first home network connected to an external network via a router, ~~characterized by the system~~ comprising:

~~path-disconnection~~ means for connecting/disconnecting a ~~path between~~ said the external network and said to/from the first home network; and

local environment management means for ~~making said path-disconnection~~ causing the means for connecting/disconnecting operate to isolate said disconnect the first home network from said the external network, ~~based on in response to a request for content generated by said received from the device, on said home network at timing ensuring communication between devices on the home network during at least one of transferring the content to the device and issuing a license for the content to the device.~~

2. (Currently amended) The ~~device-to-device authentication~~ system according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ further comprising:

~~one of said devices is a home server on the first home network for~~ legitimately acquiring the contents content from said the external network via said the router, ~~whereas wherein the other of said devices device is a client for making a request for said contents to requests the content from said the home server for use;~~

~~wherein while said home network is being isolated from said external network by said local environment management means, said home server provides said contents and/or issues a license for said contents to said client.~~

3. (Currently amended) The ~~device-to-device authentication~~ system according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ further comprising:

~~two or more home servers are able to be installed on said~~ the first home network for providing content on the first home network;

~~wherein said~~ the local environment management means temporarily disconnects ~~said path between said~~ the first home network and ~~said from the~~ external network ~~when providing said contents during at least one of transferring content to the device and~~ and/or issuing a license for said contents the content to said client the device for from the ~~each of home server servers.~~

4. (Canceled)

5. (Currently amended) The ~~device-to-device authentication~~ system according to claim 3, wherein ~~characterized in that:~~

~~said client the device~~ is able to use ~~contents~~ content acquired from a plurality of the home servers on ~~said same~~ the first home network~~[[,]]~~ and, upon ~~connection~~ connecting the device to a home server on ~~an other~~ a second home network outside the first home network, ~~said client the device~~ is ~~not able~~ unable to use ~~contents~~

content acquired from said the home servers on ~~said home networks other than said~~  
~~other~~ the first home network.

6. (Currently amended) The ~~device-to-device authentication~~ system according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein:

after completion of local communication on said the first home network, or after ~~elapse of~~ a predetermined amount of time from a start of the local communication has elapsed, ~~said the~~ local environment management means ~~reestablishes said path between said~~ reconnects the first home network and ~~said to the~~ external network.

7. (Currently amended) A ~~device-to-device authentication~~ method for authenticating a device on a first home network connected to an external network via a router, ~~characterized in that~~ the method comprising:

receiving a request for content from the device; and

disconnecting a path between said the external network and ~~said from the~~ first home network, ~~is temporarily disconnected so as to isolate said home network from~~ ~~said external network based on a~~ in response to the request, ~~generated by said device on said home network at timing ensuring communication between devices on said home network~~ during at least one of transferring the content to the device and issuing a license for the content to the device.

8. (Currently amended) The ~~device-to-device authentication~~ method according to claim 7, ~~characterized in that~~ further comprising:

~~one of said devices is acquiring, by a home server on the home network,~~  
~~for legitimately acquiring contents the content from said the external network via said~~  
~~the router, whereas the other of said is a client making a request for said contents to-~~  
~~said wherein the content is requested by the device from the home server for use;~~

~~wherein while said home network is being isolated from said external~~  
~~network by said local environment management means, said home server provides said~~  
~~contents and/or issues a license for said contents to said client.~~

9. (Currently amended) The ~~device-to-device authentication system~~ method  
according to claim 7, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein:

the content is transferred, and the license for the content is issued, by two  
~~or more home servers are able to be installed on said the home network, and~~

~~wherein said local environment means disconnects a path between said~~  
~~the home network and said external network is temporarily disconnected a path-~~  
~~between said home network and said from the external network when providing said-~~  
~~contents during at least one of transferring content to the device and/or and issuing a~~  
~~license for said contents the content to said client the device for from the each of home~~  
~~servers server.~~

10. (Canceled)

11. (Currently amended) The ~~device-to-device authentication~~ method according  
to claim 9, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein:

~~said client~~ the device is able to use ~~said contents~~ the content acquired from a plurality of the home servers on ~~said same~~ the first home network[[,]] and, upon connection to a home server on ~~an other~~ a second home network outside the first home network, ~~said client~~ the device is ~~not able~~ unable to use ~~contents~~ content acquired from ~~said~~ the home servers on ~~said the first home networks other than said other~~ home network.

12. (Currently amended) ~~The device-to-device authentication system method~~ according to claim 7, ~~characterized in that~~ further comprising:

reconnecting the first home network to the external network after completion of local communication on ~~said~~ the first home network, or after elapse of a predetermined amount of time from a start of local communication has elapsed, ~~said local environment management means reestablishes said path between said home network and said external network.~~

13. (Currently amended) A communication apparatus operating on a home network connected to an external network via a router, ~~characterized by the~~ communication apparatus comprising:

means for receiving a request for content from a device on the home network; and

local environment management means for requesting disconnection ~~to~~ isolate said of the home network from ~~said~~ the external network, in response to the request for content, ~~at timing ensuring communication between said devices on said~~

~~home network~~ during at least one of transferring the content to the device and issuing a license for the content to the device.

14. (Currently amended) The communication apparatus according to claim 13,  
~~characterized in that~~ wherein:

~~said~~ the communication apparatus ~~operates on a home network as is~~ a  
home server for providing ~~contents~~ content on the home network[[;]]

~~wherein said local environment management means requests~~  
~~disconnection to isolate said home network from said external network when providing~~  
~~said contents and/or issuing a license for said contents to said client.~~

15. (Currently amended) The communication apparatus according to claim 14,  
~~characterized in that~~ wherein:

~~said~~ the local environment management means requests ~~reestablishment~~  
~~connection between said~~ reconnection of the home network and ~~said to the~~ external  
network after completion of local communication with ~~said client~~ the device.

16. (Currently amended) A communication apparatus interconnecting a home  
network and an external network, ~~characterized by~~ the communication apparatus  
comprising:

~~path disconnection~~ means for connecting/disconnecting ~~a path between~~  
~~said~~ the external network and ~~said to/from the~~ home network; and

control means for ~~isolating said home network from said external network~~  
~~by making said path disconnection~~ causing the means for connecting/disconnecting to  
disconnect the home network from the external network, ~~operate by making said path-~~  
~~disconnection means operate based on~~ in response to a request for content generated  
~~by said~~ received from a device on said the home network, ~~at timing ensuring~~  
~~communication between devices on said home network~~ during at least one of  
transferring the content to the device and issuing a license for the content to the device.

17. (Currently amended) The communication apparatus according to claim 16,  
~~characterized in that~~ wherein:

~~said the~~ control means ~~isolates said~~ disconnects the home network from  
said the external network in response to a disconnection request from said a home  
server on the home network that provides the content ~~providing contents on said the~~  
home network.

18. (Currently amended) The communication apparatus according to claim 16,  
~~characterized in that~~ wherein:

~~said the~~ control means ~~reestablishes said connection between said~~  
causes the means for connecting/disconnecting to reconnect the home network being  
~~disconnected and said to the~~ external network in response to a ~~reestablishment~~  
reconnection request from said a home server on the home network that provides  
content ~~providing contents on said the~~ home network.

19. (Currently amended) The communication apparatus according to claim 16,  
~~characterized in that~~ wherein:

~~said the control means reestablishes said connection between said~~  
~~causes the means for connecting/disconnecting to reconnect the~~ home network and  
~~said to the~~ external network at predetermined ~~timing~~ time after isolating said  
~~disconnecting the~~ home network from said ~~the~~ external network in response to a  
~~disconnecting~~ disconnection request from said a home server on the home network that  
provides content ~~providing contents~~ on said ~~the~~ home network.

20. (Currently amended) The communication apparatus according to claim 16,  
~~characterized by~~ further comprising:

means for communicating with said ~~the~~ external network during said while  
the home network and said is disconnected from the external network ~~are being~~  
~~disconnected~~; and

means for confirming the disconnection of ~~said path between said the~~  
home network and ~~said from the~~ external network by accessing to a predetermined an  
external server on said ~~the~~ external network during the disconnection ~~a period when~~  
~~said home network and said external network are being disconnected~~.

21. (Currently amended) A computer-readable storage medium storing a  
computer program which, when executed by a communication apparatus operating on a  
home network connected to an external network via a router, causes the apparatus to  
execute a method ~~described in a computer-readable format so as to execute a process~~



for authenticating a device on ~~[[a]]~~ the home network ~~connected to an external network via a router, characterized by the method~~ comprising:

~~a step of acquiring timing for ensuring communication between devices on said home network~~ receiving a request for content from the device; and

~~a step of temporarily disconnecting a path between said the external network and said from the home network, so as to isolate said home network from said external network based on a~~ in response to the request, generated by said device on said home network at said acquiring timing during at least one of transferring the content to the device and issuing a license for the content to the device.